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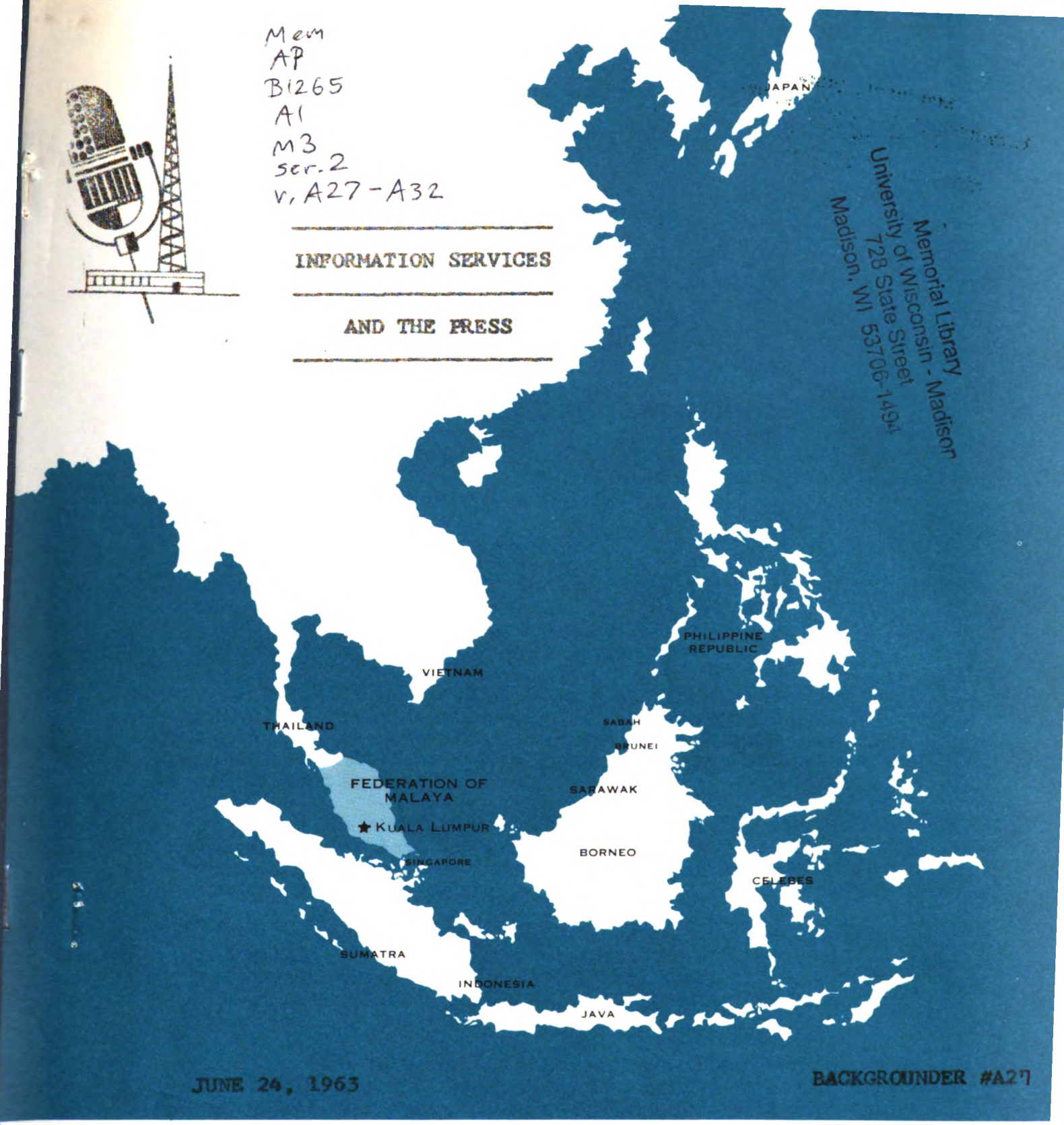
INFORMATION SERVICES

AND THE PRESS



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JUNE 24, 1963

BACKGROUNDER #A27

EMBASSY OF FEDERATION OF MALAYA

INFORMATION SERVICE

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BACKGROUNDER #A27

INFORMATION SERVICES AND THE PRESS

The Department of Information Services of the Federation of Malaya continues to play an important role in the public affairs of the country in addition to its basic function of explaining government policy, plans and measures to the people in the nation and to the outside world.

It assists in the equally important task of nation-building and promotion of the spirit of "gotong royong" (self-help) among the people in respect of national development. With Malaysia in the offing the Department has the added responsibility of explaining the implications of the Federation in the context of current developments in Southeast Asia.

Mobile units are being constantly re-deployed to ensure the widest dissemination of understanding among the people of government policy. In the districts and kampongs (villages) more local civics courses and group discussions will be organised than in the past.

The need and scope for external publicity to interpret Malaya overseas have increased significantly. In view of this responsibility for many information posts in our overseas missions is being progressively transferred to the Department.

To cope with the demand for publicity material and information both at home and overseas, the Publications Division in conjunction with the Research Division has had to increase as well as brighten and improve the quality of the Department's productions.

The Malayan Film Unit, which has been working under a great handicap for a long time, is expected to move into its new studios in Petaling Jaya, Kuala Lumpur's satellite township, before the end of the year. With the facilities that will then be available, the Unit will further improve the output and quality of its production.

TELEVISION

In the field of mass communications the newly-established Department of Television is actively engaged in the preliminary work of recruitment and training. Three key

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officers have been appointed: the Director of Television, the Head of Programming and the Engineer-in-Charge. Together with a few engineers and technicians, they are now undergoing training under the Colombo Plan.

The government intends to begin the Television Service in December this year with the opening of its first phase in Kuala Lumpur, and tenders are now out for equipment for this first stage of operation. While phase one is in operation, phase two, which is the designing and installation of the permanent Television Center in Pantai Valley, will go forward almost simultaneously.

RADIO

In the field of radio the Commercial Service which was started last year proved to be a financial success, offering a new and welcome source of revenue. Meanwhile, plans continue to be made and implemented for the improvement of Radio Malaya services both in the fields of programming and of medium-wave coverage.

The speed of working can be gauged by the fact that immediately after the Brunei revolt broke out, Radio Malaya programs in Malay were beamed to the Borneo territories from a special aerial system set up in record time.

Stimulated interest continues to be shown in Radio Malaya programs as evidenced by the impressive increase in the number of wireless licences being issued, and by increased "fan mail", and by the wilful interference caused on transmissions by hostile quarters.

With the approach of Malaysia an Overseas Broadcasting Service has become a necessity. As such a small three-language Overseas Service, "SUARA MALAYA", was initiated on February 15, 1963. It will be expanded gradually to serve the needs of the nation and to increase the volume of Malaya's voice of truth, freedom and prosperity.

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* THE PRESS *

Malayan journalism had its beginnings over a century and a half ago, and the oldest newspaper still in circulation is the Pinang Gazette. The Straits Times and the Singapore Free Press are the oldest newspapers established in Singapore, but the Straits Times moved its headquarters to Kuala Lumpur after Malaya became an independent sovereign nation.

Before the advent of Merdeka (Independence) the different language groups of newspapers, excepting the Malay newspapers, mostly represented the interests of the various racial groups or those of commercial circles.

Now, the major newspapers are gradually acquiring the Malayan outlook which is influencing their policies, staffing and content, but the development of a truly Malayan national Press must necessarily be an evolutionary process which is gaining momentum.

Sixteen daily newspapers in five languages are published in the Federation of Malaya -- three in Malay, four in English, six in Chinese, two in Tamil and one in Punjabi.

The three national language (Malay) newspapers are the Utusan Melayu (in Jawi script), the Berita Harian (in Romanised Malay) and the Warta Negara (in Jawi script). The first two are published in Kuala Lumpur and the third in Penang.

The English language newspapers are the Straits Times, the Malay Mail, the Straits Echo and the Pinang Gazette. The first two are published in Kuala Lumpur and the latter two in Penang. The Malay Mail and the Pinang Gazette are afternoon papers.

The six Chinese language newspapers are the China Press (Chung Kuo Pao) and the Tiger Press (Hu Pao) of Kuala Lumpur; the Kin Kwok Daily News of Ipoh; the Kwong Wah Yit Poh and Sing Pin Jih Pao of Penang; and the New Life Daily of Johore Bharu.

The Indian newspapers are the Tamil Nesan and Pardesi Kalsa Sewak (a Punjabi daily) both of Kuala Lumpur, and the Sakthi (a Tamil daily) of Penang.

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Most of the daily newspapers have Sunday editions: -- Utusan Zaman, Warta Mingguan and Berita Minggu (Malay); Sunday Times, Sunday Mail and Sunday Gazette (English); while the Chinese Sunday papers are issued under the same name as the dailies.

In addition there are weekly, fortnightly and monthly publications: -- Penang's Sevika, a Tamil weekly; Malainanda (Tamil) published in Sungei Siput, Perak; the Kuala Lumpur Angkatan Baru, a bi-monthly in Romanised Malay; Malaya Merdeka, fortnightly paper of the United Malay National Organisation in Kuala Lumpur; the National Union of Plantation Workers' Sangamani, a Tamil fortnightly published in Kuala Lumpur, the monthly Overseas Chinese Periodical of Kuala Lumpur, and the recently started Malaya Pictorial published by the Department of Information Services.

The major newspapers published in Singapore also circulate in the Federation of Malaya. They have offices or representatives in the Federation. These are the Singapore Free Press (English afternoon); the Sin Chew Jit Pao, the Nanyang Siang Pau, and the Nanfang Evening Post (Chinese); the Tamil Murasu; and the Navjiwan (Punjabi).

The newspapers that have a Federation-wide circulation are the Straits Times, Utusan Melayu, Berita Harian, Nanyang Siang Pao and Sin Chew Jit Pao.

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LAND FOR THE LANDLESS

ne 28, 1963

BACKGROUNDER #A28

EMBASSY OF FEDERATION OF MALAYA

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BACKGROUNDER #A28

LAND FOR THE LANDLESS

It has been and is the declared policy of the Government of the Federation of Malaya to provide land for the landless people with the least possible delay. In order to satisfy the growing need of the rural population for land the procedure on land alienation has been simplified and expedited. It is only by providing lands of economic size that rural standards of living can be improved resulting in higher incomes.

In this connection, the Government, through its agency, the Federal Land Development Authority, has been implementing a dynamic program of land development and settlement for the benefit of the landless rural population. By providing economically viable farms, the improvement of economic, social and cultural conditions in the rural communities will be achieved.

Up to date, the Authority has started 49 land development schemes all over the Federation with over 85,000 acres under current development for 7,500 families. Eventually within the next few years, on completion of all phases, these 49 schemes alone will see the development of over 206,000 acres for the benefit of 16,000 families.

In addition to giving land the Government has provided settlers under the various schemes with first-class access roads, internal roads in village and agricultural areas, schools, water supplies, clinics, telephones, community centers and mosques. The costs of these services and of their administration are met by the Government.

In 1963, and in the remaining years of the Second Five-Year Plan, the Authority will continue vigorously its planned program to start 12 new schemes with an eventual acreage of 50,000 for 4,800 families each year. At the projected rate, by the end of the second planned period, the country will have at least 75 major land development schemes in various stages of development with an acreage eventually of approximately 310,000 for the benefit of approximately 30,000 families.

As part of the Government's crop diversification plan, greater emphasis is being given to the planting of oil palms as a major crop. For 1963 the Authority has started six oil palm schemes while more have been planned for subsequent years in areas of relatively higher fertility.

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The Government, therefore, is sparing no effort to give the rural people pride of place in the community. Anyone who avails himself of the opportunities offered and works really hard in a land development scheme is assured not only of an adequate standard of living from an economically-sized farm, but also at the same time of a dignified place in the community and in society as a whole.

Similar to the success that has been achieved by the F.L.D.A. in opening up new lands, State Governments, working in close co-operation with the Ministry of Rural Development, have intensified their efforts to forge ahead with fringe alienation schemes, which are either subsidised or non-subsidised. In 1962, the States opened up 154 subsidised schemes, involving a total area of 58,623 acres, and 50 non-subsidised schemes with a total acreage of 11,457. All these schemes have been, or are now in the process of being, planted with rubber.

FRINGE ALIENATION

In 1963 the State Governments have decided to open up another 166 subsidised fringe alienation schemes covering an area of 55,845 acres. At the same time the work of consolidating these schemes will be vigorously carried out to ensure full and maximum success. To meet the demands of those people who have the means and capacity to develop their land, more areas will be thrown open for development under controlled alienation.

The schemes carried out under this policy will be non-subsidised, but will offer an opportunity to those laborers, wage-earners, and people in low income groups who have the necessary capacity and will, to participate in land development schemes so as to better their future economic prospects.

To implement the policy of consolidation on the fringe alienation schemes effectively and to ensure success, the State Governments have appointed a number of Visiting Agents, Supervisors and Field Assistants to make periodical visits and inspections. These inspections will be supplemented by the staff of the Federation Commissioner of Lands.

In satisfying the land needs of the people, the role of the Survey Department is vital. The capacity of the Survey Department has had to be increased to meet the gigantic task of surveying hundreds of land schemes as efficiently and expeditiously as possible. This has necessitated the recruitment of more technicians, no less than 77 in 1962 alone. In spite of the additional heavy responsibility the Department will bear as a result of commitments in survey for controlled alienation schemes, it is confident of being able to cope with the extra work.

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Special mention must be made of 12 New Zealand surveyors posted to the Federation under the Colombo Plan. They have given valuable service, and together with Malayan local officers have shared the brunt of the pressure in carrying out rural development surveys. Although eight have returned to New Zealand, four others have agreed to continue to serve the country for another year.

TIN MINING

It has often been said that in the field of mining tin is one of the mainstays of the Malayan economy; this is still true today. Production of tin in the Federation of Malaya in 1963 may be somewhat lower than last year, and some reduction in output during coming years appears to be unavoidable due to the difficulty in finding suitable tin-bearing lands to replace worked-out areas.

Iron ore production has risen rapidly during recent years. In 1961 production exceeded 6,500,000 tons, and this achievement was repeated in 1962. Production can be maintained at these high levels provided there are no further cutbacks in imports by the Japanese, the principal buyers.

Under the Five-Year Plan new mineral dressing and research laboratories are being constructed for the Research Division of the Department of Mines. These facilities will permit the expansion of research work into improved methods and equipment for increased recovery of tin and other minerals, and will enable better services to be given to the mining industry.

In line with the policy of encouraging Malay participation in mining, scout prospecting of Malay Reservation is being and will continue to be carried out by the Mineral Investigation Drilling Unit at Federal expense. It is proposed that areas designated as likely to be tin-bearing shall be developed and worked by Malay companies and individuals.

In the interests of the tin industry and in accordance with the general policy of supporting international schemes for stabilising the prices of primary products, the Federation participated at meetings of the Second International Tin Council held in London, Washington and Bangkok during 1962.

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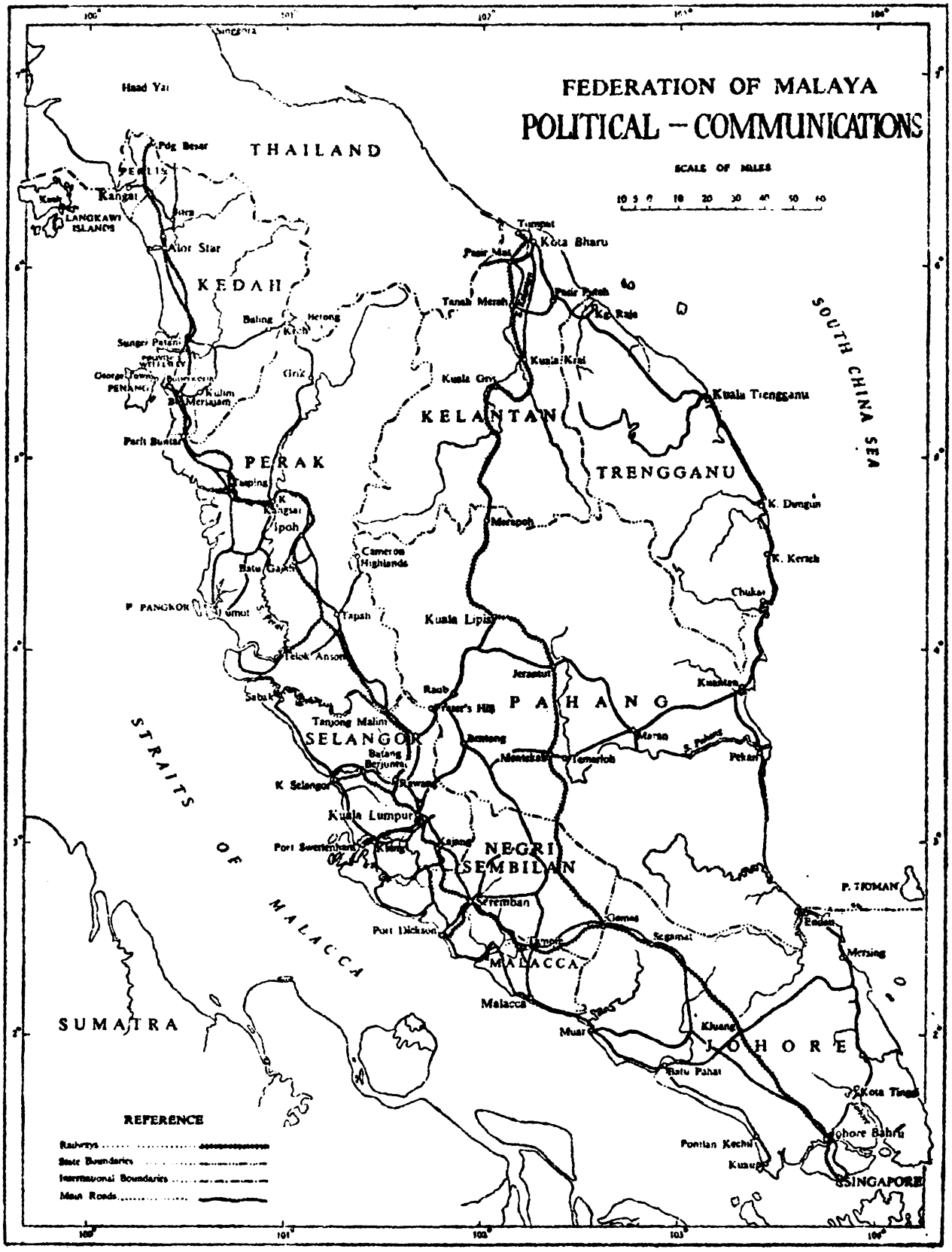

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IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS SPUR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN PROGRESSIVE MALAYA

July 15, 1963

BACKGROUNDER #A29

EMBASSY OF FEDERATION OF MALAYA

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BACKGROUNDER #A29

COMMUNICATIONS BEING MODERNISED

The importance of modern communications is fully appreciated by the Government of the Federation of Malaya, and every effort is being made to bring them up to date.

Improvements have been made in maintaining services in Federation ports at international standards. The lighthouses at Fort Cornwallis and Pulau Rimau, Penang, now have modern equipment, and are fully electrified. Three new beacons have been constructed on the East Coast. Additional navigational aids on the West Coast will be provided this year.

Port Swettenham, although not originally designed for its volume of cargo, handled in 1962 and all-time record tonnage of 1,900,000 tons. This was made possible by the implementation of a "crash program", the construction of a new wharf, and the provision of improved lighter and transit shed facilities.

The North Klang Straits projects which started in 1960 will be completed by the end of the year. The four new wharves will increase considerably the handling facilities and, it is also anticipated, will eliminate the present congestion in Port Swettenham.

Port Swettenham will be separated from the Railway Administration by January 1964, and at the same time the Railway Administration will become a Corporation Aggregate. This will result in improved efficiency as both authorities will then operate on a purely commercial basis. In keeping with the rapid development of Port Swettenham, the Headquarters of the Marine Department will be moved there from Penang. A new Marine Office is under construction.

The Penang Port Commission is making arrangements to commence shortly the reclamation of a large area of foreshore and seabed in connection with its project to construct six deep-water wharves on the mainland at Butterworth. The new port will provide wharfage for six large cargo liners and will cater for the growing trade of the mainland of Northern Malaya and the East Coast when the proposed East-West highway is completed. In implementing its policy of Malayanisation, a Malayan has been appointed as a General Manager for the first time in the history of the Penang Port Commission.

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RAILWAY SERVICES

The Railway Administration has made satisfactory progress in its modernisation program. The introduction of diesel locomotives and improvements to the track will ensure economical freight transportation and safer as well as faster travel.

ROAD TRANSPORT

Steady progress is already made in increasing Malay participation in the road transport industry. By the end of 1962 the total number of Malay taxi-cab and hire-car licences was 1,821, or about 46.5 per cent of the overall total of 3,915 licences in the Federation. Goods-carriers' licences of class "A" held by Malay or joint-Malay companies increased to 143 by the end of 1962.

The Government is also conscious of the need to improve the standard of safety on the highways and will intensify its safety program to decrease accidents throughout the Federation.

CIVIL AVIATION AND METEOROLOGY

In Civil Aviation the Government recognises the need to provide air services and associated ground services in keeping with modern technical developments. It is also the Government's policy to provide fast, efficient and safe but economical services. During the latter part of this year modern turboprop aircraft cruising at speeds approaching 300 miles an hour will be introduced on domestic routes. A program of improvements at aerodromes is now being undertaken to provide facilities for these aircraft.

At Kuala Lumpur a new international airport is being constructed. This airport with its runway will ensure that whatever type of aircraft comes into service on world air routes these will always be able to call at Kuala Lumpur.

In the spirit of ASA an agreement has been signed for pooling the services of the Malayan Airways Limited and the Thai Airways International on their routes between Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok and Hong Kong. The Cathay Pacific Airways have also participated in this pooling arrangement.

A high standard of meteorological service is still maintained. A new meteorological station at Cameron Highlands will be completed by the middle of this year. This station will overcome the lack of climatological statistics of hilly terrain and observational data for synoptic meteorology.

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TOWARDS GREATER PRODUCTIVITY IN AGRICULTURE

July 15, 1963

BACKGROUNDER #A30

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BACKGROUNDER #A30

TOWARDS GREATER PRODUCTIVITY IN AGRICULTURE

In 1962 the Federation of Malaya Government carried out several measures to further develop agriculture in the country. Efforts to increase agricultural products by making more land available for the purpose of cultivation and by carrying out research aimed at improving crops and soil were continued vigorously last year.

All this goes to prove that the Government is not only well aware that the majority of the people directly or indirectly depend on agriculture for their livelihood, but it is also determined to raise the standards of living of the people.

Last year efforts to increase agricultural products achieved considerable success. In many places padi crops have increased by 15 per cent per acre as a result of using good seeds and proper fertiliser. Research in padi planting will be continued as laid down in the Five-Year Development Plan. Research has also been carried out in other crops such as oil palm, tea and fruit.

All these are necessary in the country's efforts to diversify agricultural products. Research also includes soil survey, experiments to find the most suitable fertiliser for each crop, and investigations to further increase the use of products.

At the same time the Government has also carried out a scheme to train farmers to use new and improved methods by establishing training and information centers in kampongs and by encouraging the formation of Farmers' Associations.

In 1963 the Federation Government will further intensify its efforts to implement schemes to increase agricultural produce in the country. One of the latest and most important schemes is replanting and rehabilitation of coconut holdings. This scheme was started in Johore and will in course of time cover other states as well.

Plans to increase agricultural acreage and agricultural produce from the present area also involve major drainage and irrigation schemes. In 1962 the Government succeeded in implementing major drainage schemes in Perak, Malacca and Pahang and several minor drainage schemes in a number of places,

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costing a sum of M$24,600,000 (US$8,200,000). In 1963 the Government will continue to carry out drainage and irrigation schemes as proposed in the Five-Year Development Plan.

LIVESTOCK

Apart from agriculture, the Federation Government is also making efforts to raise the people's standard of living by developing animal rearing and fishing industries. Research is being carried out, and much success has been achieved, such as the breeding of freshwater prawns. Research will continue in 1963.

The Government has implemented major and minor schemes to increase and improve livestock, prevent diseases and train the rural population in proper methods of breeding. As a result of this encouragement day by day poultry-breeding is attracting the attention of the rural population. This is evident from the fact that the number of people rearing animals has increased and the number of fowls, pigs and other animals has also multiplied.

The rural people are now very keen to attend courses in poultry-breeding and animal husbandry organised at training centers. This enthusiasm indicates that greater progress will be achieved in future. Similar progress has been achieved in fisheries. By breeding fish in ponds and by using new techniques, the Government has succeeded in increasing fish produce. In 1963 efforts to this end will be intensified.

Efforts to increase agricultural produce, livestock and fish will not bring full benefit to the people unless there is a scheme whereby they can get a better return from the sale of their produce. In this respect the Government has also encouraged the co-operative movement among farmers, animal and poultry rearers, fishermen and others who really contribute to the increase of products.

CO-OPERATIVES

In 1962, 157 new Co-operative Societies were registered, thus making a total of 2,900 societies with a capital of M$150,000,000 (US$50,000,000). In 1963, efforts will be concentrated on schemes to consolidate the position of these registered Co-operative Societies, particularly Thrift and Loan Societies, so that they will achieve the progress necessary for the economic development of the rural population. To this end the Government will endeavor to raise the standards of education in the Co-operative College at Petaling Jaya where suitable training is given for Co-operative Officers and officials of Co-operative Societies. Marketing will also be given priority in co-operative development.

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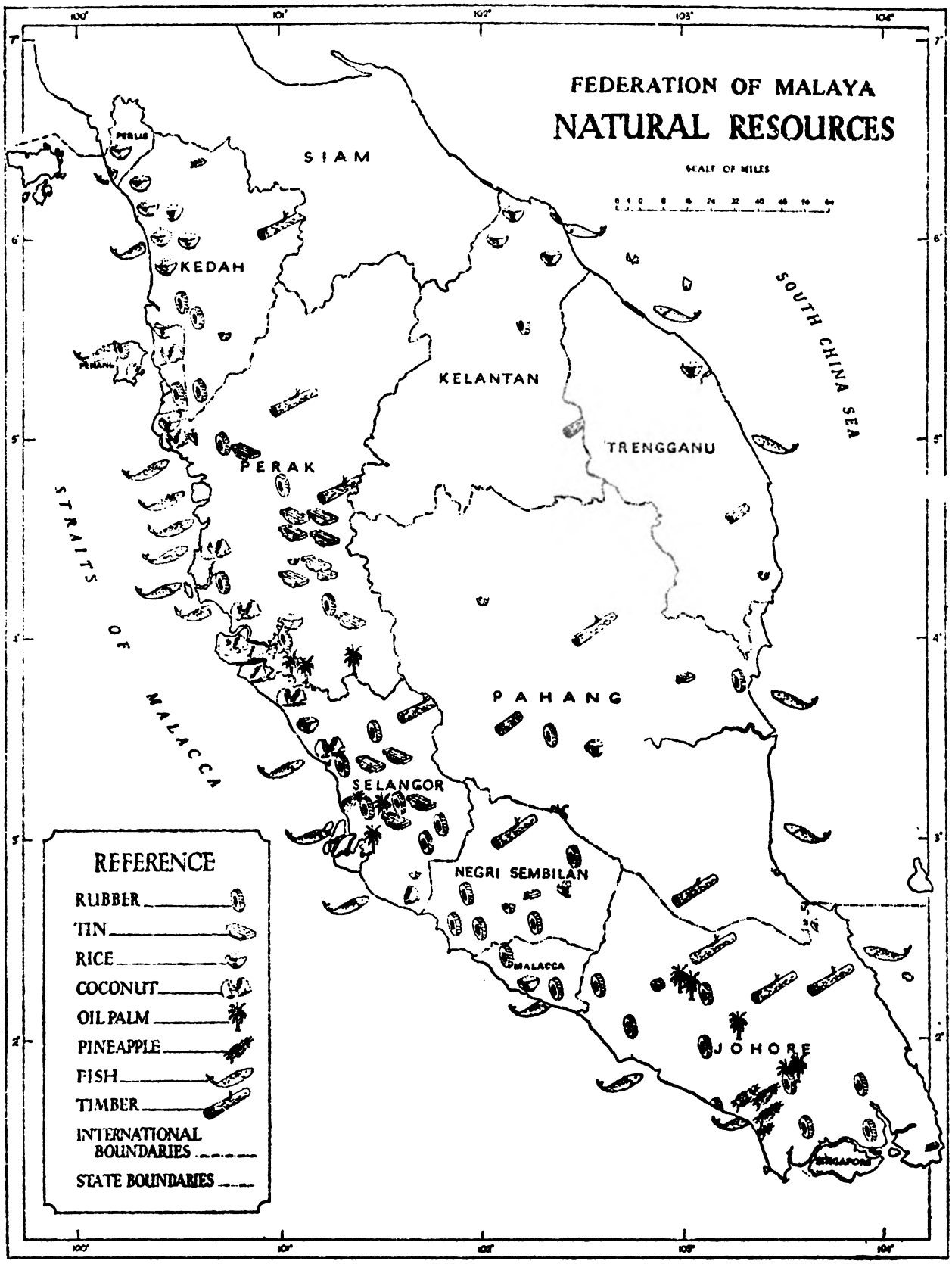

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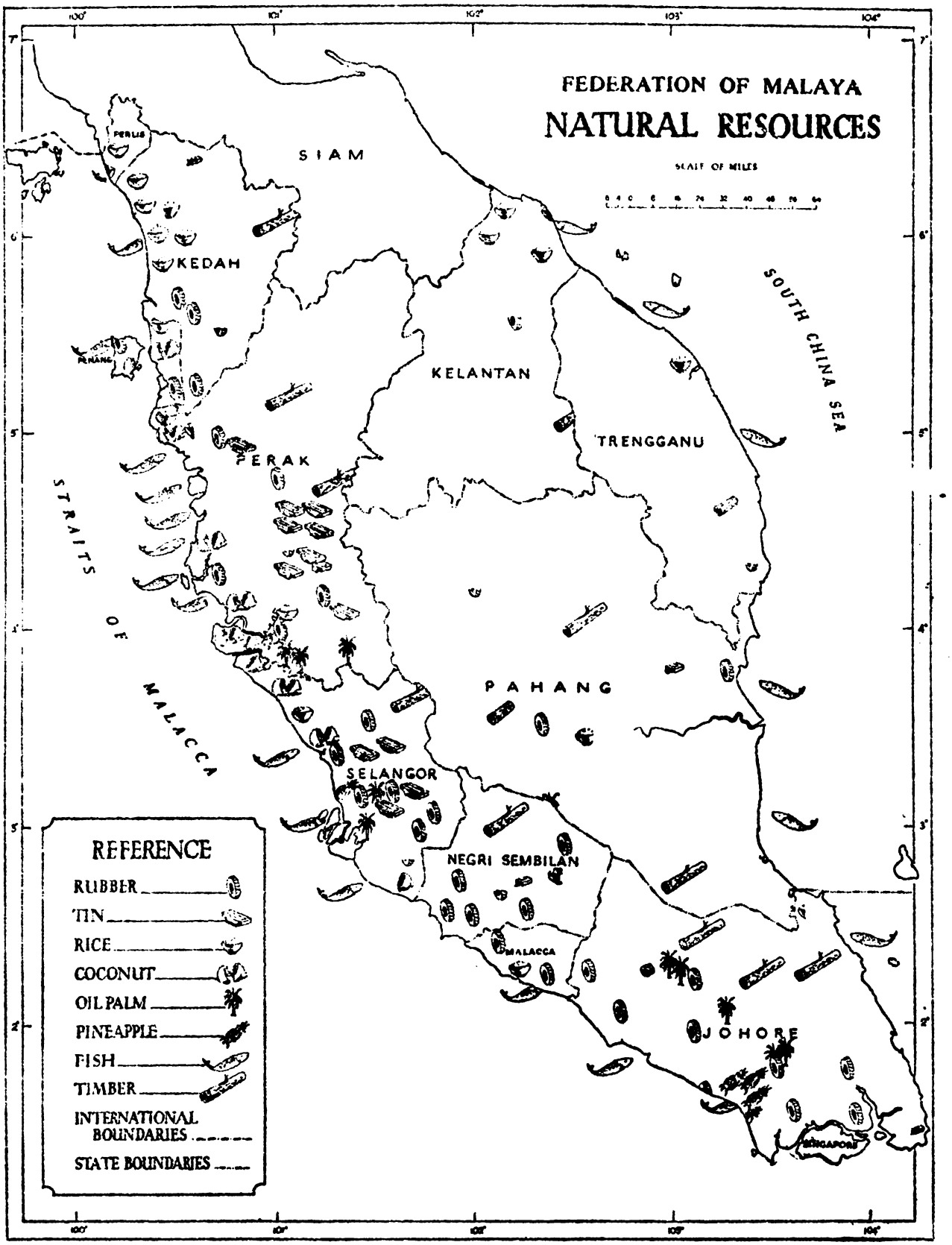

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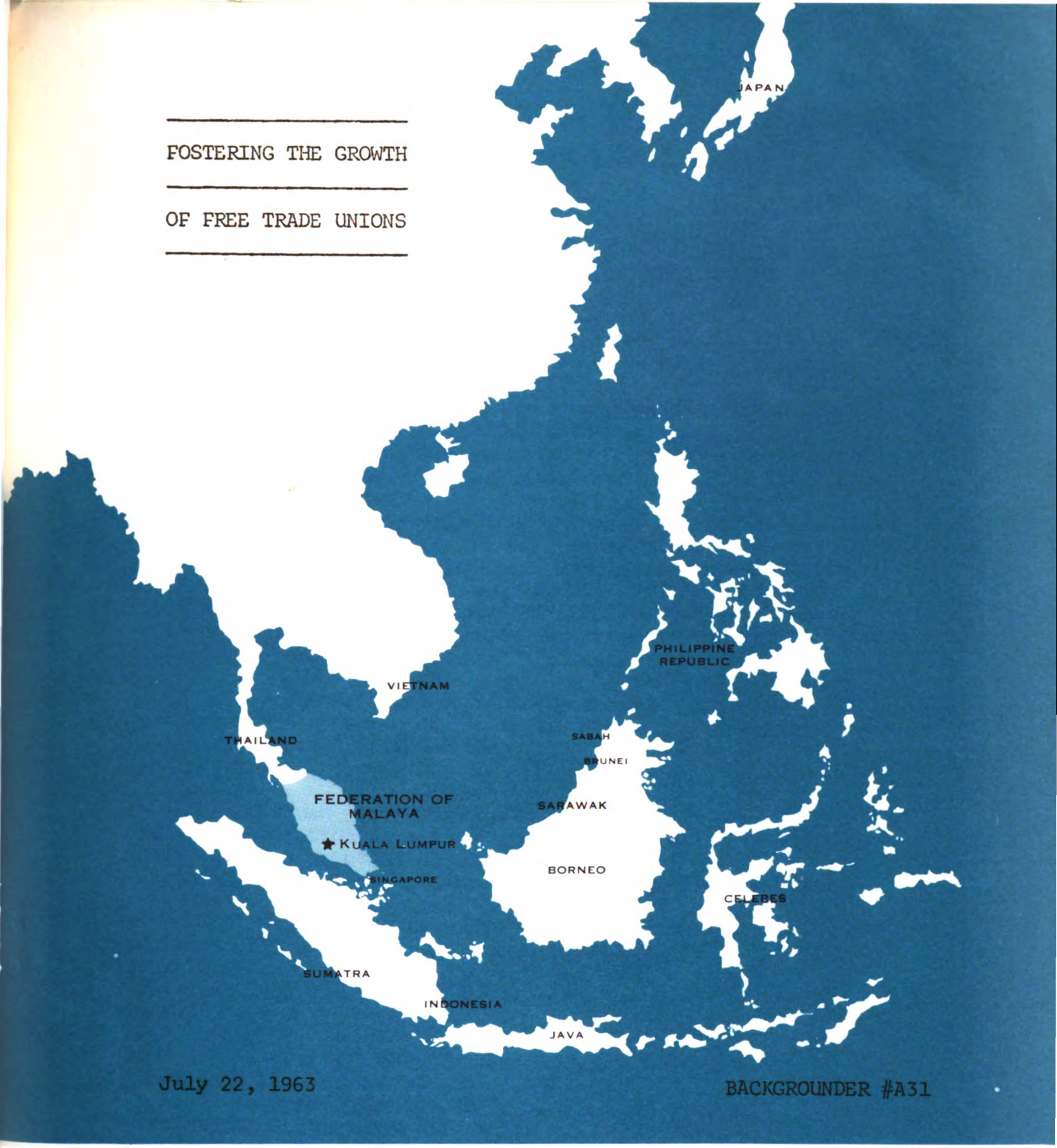
FOSTERING THE GROWTH OF FREE TRADE UNIONS



July 22, 1963

BACKGROUNDER #A31

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BACKGROUNDER #A31

FOSTERING THE GROWTH OF FREE TRADE UNIONS

The policy of the Government of the Federation of Malaya in the field of labor is to foster the growth of free, democratic and responsible trade unionism in the country and the operation of the voluntary system of industrial relations.

Though the voluntary system of industrial relations has generally been successful and has contributed towards the development of sound and stable relations in the Federation, certain events during 1962 were rather disconcerting and pointed to the need to provide adequate safeguards to enable more effective implementation of the voluntary system to achieve industrial peace.

The National Joint Labor Advisory Council is now examining the question of providing adequate and more effective voluntary procedures for dealing with disputes at all levels in industry.

Such procedures exist in many industries at present but their adoption in all industries and at all levels would help to bring about an amicable settlement of the majority of disputes, without the necessity for any outside interference.

It is the Government's hope that all employers and workers will conduct their mutual relationships in a manner that will not jeopardise the fair name of the country and the stability that the nation has been fortunate enough to enjoy.

The voluntary system has been accepted by both employers and workers and has contributed largely to industrial peace. The year 1962 was one of considerable activity in the industrial field. A record number of 42 collective agreements was voluntarily reached between employers and trade unions during 1962, notably in the planting, mining, banking and commercial fields.

There were 95 strikes involving a loss of 450,000 man-days, as compared with 58 strikes in 1961 involving nearly 60,000 man-days. However, not less than 70 of the strikes during 1962 were of short duration, lasting from one to three

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days and more than 310,000 of the man-days lost were due to the strike in the Malayan Railway Administration and the one-day sympathy action by the National Union of Plantation Workers.

The Government will continue to ensure that the workers of the country get a fair share of progress in economic and social development of the nation. A top-level Committee is now studying the feasibility of introducing more effective social security measures to cater for the various needs of workers whose earnings are interrupted through no fault of their own.

It is hoped that this Committee's Report will be published soon and suitable measures introduced thereafter. The accommodation of workers is also receiving the attention of the Government. A new Workers' Housing Bill will be introduced in Parliament to provide for better housing for workers.

The training of youth and adult workers will be given greater impetus not only to meet expanding requirements under development programs but also to provide greater participation by workers in the constructive activity in the nation.

The National Apprenticeship Scheme, started in 1957, is at the moment providing training for over 500 apprentices from 93 establishments throughout the country.

An Industrial Training Institute to cost more than M$1,000,000 (US$1,334,000) will be constructed in Old Ku Chai Road in Kuala Lumpur before the end of this year under the Scheme. It is expected that about 500 youth and adult workers can be given intensive training courses in this Institute.

SOCIAL WELFARE

The Government is mindful of the plight of the less fortunate or handicapped persons of the community. A comprehensive program for the care and training of the mentally and physically handicapped has been formulated. It is planned to construct a Rehabilitation Center in Cheras by 1964 to cater for about 100 resident physically handicapped children and adolescents of both sexes.

A number of out-patients will also be admitted to this Center, depending on the availability of qualified staff and facilities.

A Home for mentally deficient children is also to be built in Johore in 1964, with a residential capacity for about 60 children between the ages of six and 16.

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The program for rehabilitation of handicapped persons aims to give suitable training to develop their residual physical capacities to the fullest and thus enable them to become self-supporting and useful citizens.

Legislation and plans for the protection of women and girls and the rehabilitation of prostitutes, beggars and vagrants have already been drawn up and will be introduced during the coming year.

A Center for the rehabilitation of victims of prostitution will be built in Cheras, Selangor, in the middle of 1964. In this Center attention will be given to re-education.

Vocational training, preferably of their own choice, will be provided so as to offer them prospects of obtaining suitable employment with dignity.

The promotion of youth leadership and activities and the co-ordination of youth services to achieve greater participation of youth in rural and community development will receive special attention.

The Government hopes that by these measures the youth of the country would be able to utilise their leisure time and energy for constructive purposes in the cause of national development.

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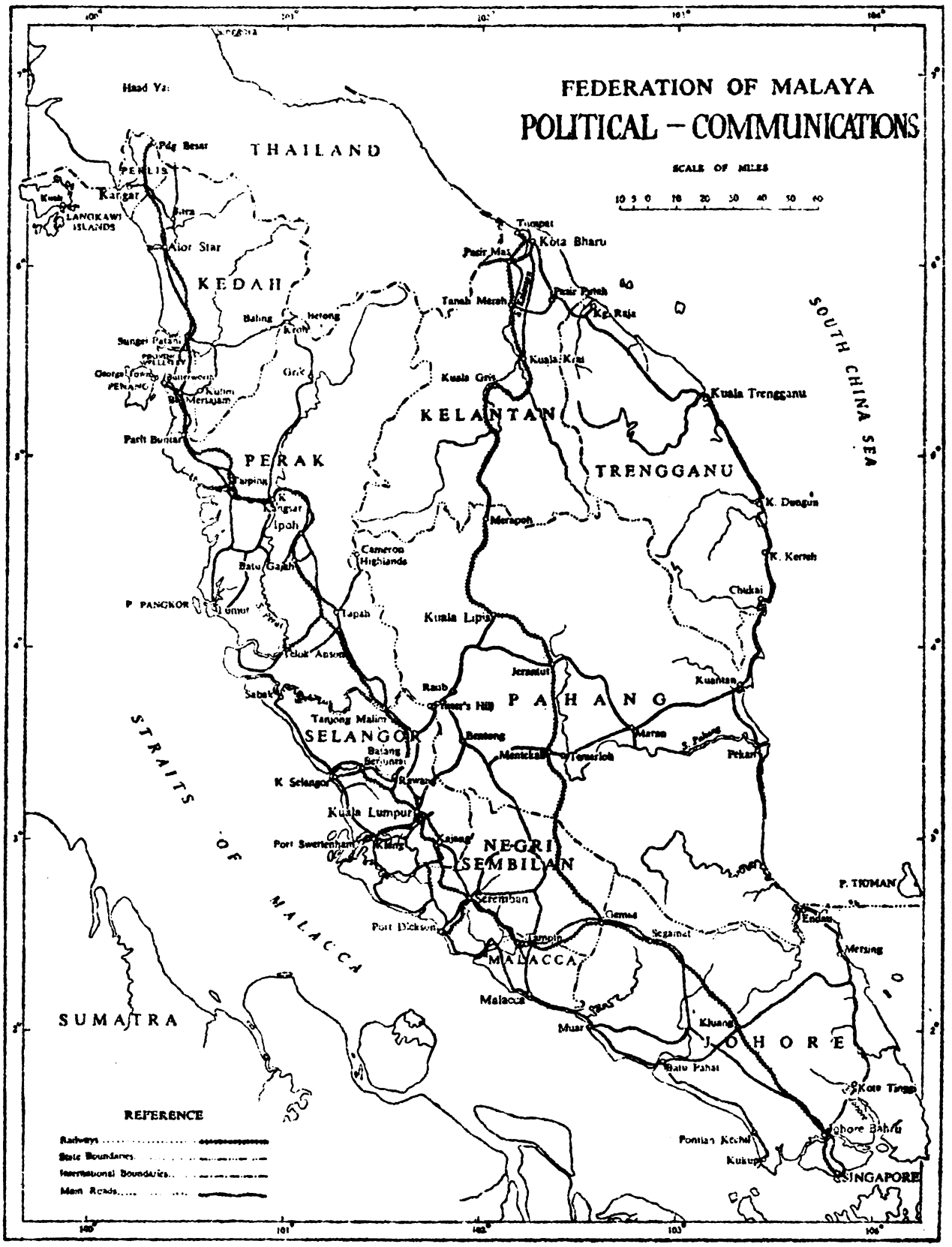

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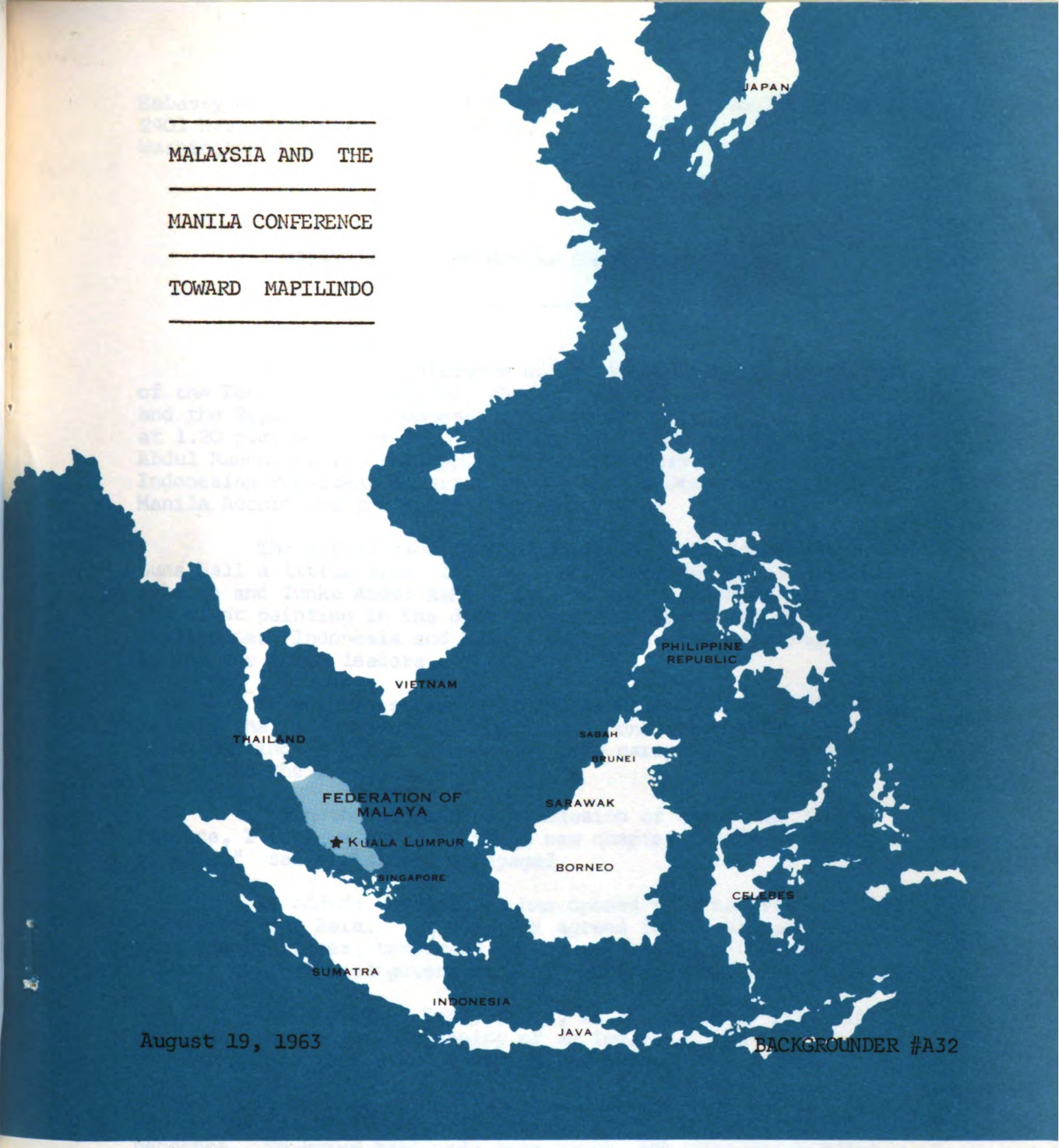
MALAYSIA AND THE MANILA CONFERENCE TOWARD MAPILINDO



August 19, 1963

BACKGROUNDER #A32

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BACKGROUNDER #A32

MALAYSIA AND THE MANILA CONFERENCE

The Summit Conference of the three Heads of Government of the Federation of Malaya, the Republic of the Philippines and the Republic of Indonesia, came to an end on August 5, 1963, at 1.20 p.m. with the signing by Malayan Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, Philippine President Diosdado Macapagal, and Indonesian President Sukarno, of the Manila Declaration, the Manila Accord and the Joint Statement.

The actual closing ceremony took place in Manila's Juan Luna Hall a little after 12 noon. President Macapagal, President Sukarno and Tunku Abdul Rahman came in and took their places under the giant painting in the Juan Luna Hall. The flags of the Philippines, Indonesia and Malaya were under the paintings behind the three leaders.

In a short ceremony President Macapagal spoke first. He said that as a result of the Summit Conference three voices were speaking as one in unison and were carrying the message of harmony to their people.

"With the successful conclusion of the Summit Conference, I feel we have written a new chapter in the history of Asia," said President Macapagal.

He added: "Mapilindo has opened up a new role for the Malays and for Asia. It has been agreed in the Manila Accord that foreign bases, temporary in nature, should not be used to subvert the national governments of the three Mapilindo countries."

The Mapilindo Declaration, in the words of President Macapagal, marked the beginning of an important new stage in the development of the three countries, as independent states.

"They have agreed to the mutual defence of this region, and the Manila Declaration is therefore a declaration of independence. To bring Mapilindo into being, frequent and regular consultationswill be held at all levels, from the lowest to summit conference to bring a solid and lasting Mapilindo," he pointed out.

When President Macapagal ended his speech with this statement, he received a standing applause. He then read the Manila Declaration and after reading it he called the Tunku to speak.

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TUNKU'S ADDRESS

Tunku Abdul Rahman thanked President Macapagal for calling the Summit Conference. He said it had brought together the people of Malaya, Indonesia and the Philippines and, secondly, it had brought about a solution to the Indonesian opposition to Malaysia.

The three Foreign Ministers and their permanent secretaries were to be congratulated in tackling this explosive question. To the people of Malaya and the people in the Borneo territories, Malaysia was a matter of life and death.

The Tunku said: "I would not like to think what would have happened if President Macapagal had not called this meeting."

He then referred to President Macapagal's speech at the opening of the Summit Conference when Mr. Macapagal praised President Sukarno for his greatness as an Asian leader and as a leader of world stature.

Tunku Abdul Rahman said he agreed with those words of President Macapagal. And he said the greatness of President Sukarno was readily shown by his willingness to understand other view points and thus bring about peace. Willingness to work with others and see others viewpoints marked President Sukarno's greatness.

The Tunku also said that President Macapagal was a great man and one thing was certain. President Macapagal would always have the distinction and the satisfaction to know that "he is the first person to take this step of bringing the Malay races together in Mapilindo."

Tunku Abdul Rahman said "I have come to Manila in search of friendship and I have found it. People of the Malay race everywhere can be proud of Presidents Macapagal and Sukarno, the two dynamic leaders against colonialism and exploitation in all forms."

Speaking about Malaya, he said: "We are a small multi-racial country. We could only survive if races could live in peace and tolerance and have mutual respect for each other."

Coming to Mapilindo, the Tunku said that it provided a launching ground of much progress for closer co-operation and friendship. "There has been a lot of opposition," the Tunku said, "regarding Malaysia, a lot of it due to misunderstanding."

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He pointed out "Malaysia has been branded as an imperialist design by Communists and the Communists have repeated it so much that others have begun to believe it. To show that Malaysia is not a neo-colonialist or imperialist design, the Secretary-General of the United Nations has been invited to send his fact-finding missions to these territories. Communism is more of a danger than any form of imperialism to the peoples of these territories. We will reject every form of imperialism. Malaysia is for the good of all. If we had to spend money on defence, it would be useless."

The Tunku then went on to say that he was happy for the success of this meeting. He said that Malaya would give all the support needed for those who think and love peace, and would work with Mapilindo towards peace and freedom.

The Tunku concluded his speech by expressing his thanks to the two Presidents, to the Foreign Ministers and finally to the Philippines Government and the people.

SUKARNO'S SPEECH

The last speaker of the day was President Sukarno. He said he was very glad that the Summit had been brought to a successful conclusion and given birth to Mapilindo.

He then said: "I would like to speak to the people who don't like the successful ending of the Summit. I would like to tell them what Abraham Lincoln said: 'you can't escape history.' Mapilindo is just a beginning. History will give us what we are striving for."

With these words, the ceremony came to an end. President Sukarno received a standing applause.

The three heads of government shook hands, walked out of the hall together, smiling and waving cheerfully to the assembled guests.

MANILA ACCORD

The governments of the Federation of Malaya, the Republic of Indonesia and the Republic of the Philippines prompted by their keen and common desire to have a general exchange of views on current problems concerning stability, security, economic development and social progress of the three countries and of the region and upon the initiative of President Diosdado Macapagal, agreed that a Conference of Ministers of the three countries be held in Manila on June 7, 1963 for the purpose of achieving common understanding and close fraternal co-operation among themselves.

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Accordingly Tun Abdul Razak, Deputy Prime Minister of the Federation of Malaya, Dr. Subandrio, Deputy First Minister/ Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia and Hon. Emanuel Pelaez, Vice-President of the Philippines and concurrently Secretary of Foreign Affairs met in Manila from 7 to 11 June, 1963.

The deliberations were held in a frank manner and in a most cordial atmosphere in keeping with the spirit of friendship prevailing in the various meetings held between President Sukarno of the Republic of Indonesia and Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra of the Federation of Malaya and President Diosdado Macapagal. This Ministerial conference was a manifestation of the determination of the nations in this region to achieve closer co-operation in their endeavor to chart their common future.

The Ministers were of one mind that the three countries share a primary responsibility for the maintenance of the stability and security of the area from subversion in any form or manifestation in order to preserve their respective national identities and to ensure the peaceful development of their respective countries and of their region in accordance with the ideals and aspirations of their people.

In the same spirit of common and constructive endeavor they exchanged views on the proposed Confederation of Nations of Malay origin, the proposed Federation of Malaysia, the Philippine claim to North Borneo and related problems.

THE MACAPAGAL PLAN

Recognising that it is in the common interest of their countries to maintain fraternal relations and to strengthen co-operation among their peoples who are bound together by ties of race and culture, the three Ministers agreed to intensify the joint and individual efforts of their countries to secure lasting peace, progress and prosperity for themselves and for their neighbors.

In this context, the three Ministers supported President Macapagal's plan envisaging the grouping of the three nations of Malay origin working together in closest harmony but without surrendering any portion of their sovereignty. This calls for the establishment of the necessary common organs.

The three Ministers agreed to take the initial steps towards this ultimate aim by establishing machinery for frequent and regular consultations. The details of such machinery will be further defined. The machinery will enable the three governments to hold regular consultations at all levels to deal with matters of mutual interest and concern

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consistent with the national, regional and international responsibilities or obligations of each country without prejudice to its sovereignty and independence. The Ministers agreed that their countries will endeavor to achieve close understanding and co-operation in dealing with common problems relating to security, economic, social and cultural development.

In order to accelerate the process of growth towards the ultimate establishment of President Macapagal's plan, the Ministers agreed that each country shall set up its own National Secretariat. Pending the establishment of a Central Secretariat for the consultative machinery, the National Secretaries should co-ordinate and co-operate with each other in the fulfilment of their tasks.

The Ministers further agreed to recommend that Heads of Government and Foreign Ministers meet at least once a year for the purpose of consultations on matters of importance and common concern.

MALAYSIA AND NORTH BORNEO

The Ministers re-affirmed their countries' adherence to the principle of self-determination for the peoples of non-self-governing territories. In this context Indonesia and the Philippines stated that they would welcome the formation of Malaysia provided the support of the people of the Borneo territories is ascertained by an independent and impartial authority, the Secretary-General of the United Nations or his representative.

The Federation of Malaya expressed appreciation for this attitude of Indonesia and the Philippines and undertook to consult the British Government and the Governments of the Borneo territories with a view to inviting the Secretary-General of the United Nations or his representative to take the necessary steps in order to ascertain the wishes of the people of those territories.

The Philippines made it clear that its position on the inclusion of North Borneo in the Federation of Malaysia is subject to the final outcome of the Philippine claim to North Borneo. The Ministers took note of the Philippine claim and the right of the Philippines to continue to pursue it in accordance with international law and the principle of the Pacific settlement of disputes. They agreed that the inclusion of North Borneo in the Federation of Malaysia would not prejudice either the claim or any right thereunder. Moreover, in the context of their close association, the three countries agreed to exert their best endeavors to bring the claim to a just and expeditious solution by peaceful means, such as negotiations,

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conciliation, arbitration, or judicial settlement as well as other peaceful means of the parties' own choice, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and the Bandung Declaration.

In particular, considering the close historical ties between the peoples of the Philippines and North Borneo as well as their geographical propinquity, the Ministers agreed that in the event of North Borneo joining the proposed Federation of Malaysia the Government of the latter and the Government of the Philippines should maintain and promote the harmony and the friendly relations subsisting in their region to ensure the security and stability of the area.

The Ministers agreed to recommend that a meeting of their respective Heads of Government be held in Manila not later than the end of July, 1963.

The Ministers expressed satisfaction over the atmosphere of brotherliness and cordiality which pervaded their meeting and considered it as a confirmation of their close fraternal ties and as a happy augury for the success of future consultations among their leaders.

The Ministers agreed to place on record their profound appreciation of gratitude and for the statesmanlike efforts of President Macapagal whose courage, vision and inspiration not only facilitated the holding of this historic meeting but also contributed towards the achievements for the first time of unity or purpose and a sense of common dedication among the peoples of Malaya, Indonesia and the Philippines.

Approved and accepted: Manila, July 31, 1963

(signed)

Soekarno	President of the Republic of Indonesia
Diosdado Macapagal	President of the Philippines
Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj	Prime Minister of the Federation of Malaya.

MANILA DECLARATION

The President of the Republic of Indonesia, the President of the Philippines and the Prime Minister of the Federation of Malaya, assembled in a Summit Conference in Manila from July 30 to August 5, 1963, following the meeting of their Foreign Ministers held in Manila from June 7 to 11, 1963: -

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Conscious of the historic significance of their coming together for the first time as leaders of sovereign states that have emerged after long struggles from colonial status to independence;

Desiring to achieve better understanding and closer co-operation in their endeavor to chart their common future;

Inspired also by the spirit of Asian African solidarity forged in the Bandung Conference of 1955;

Convinced that their countries, which are bound together by close historical ties of race and culture, share a primary responsibility for the maintenance of the stability and security of the area from subversion in any form or manifestation in order to preserve their respective national identities and to ensure the peaceful development of their respective countries and their region in accordance with the ideals and aspirations of their peoples; and determined to intensify the joint and individual efforts of their countries to secure lasting peace, progress and prosperity for themselves and their neighbors in a world dedicated to freedom and justice;

Do hereby declare:

First,that they reaffirm their adherence to the principle of equal right and self determination of peoples as enunciated in the United Nations Charter and the Bandung Declaration;

Second, that they are determined, in the common interest of their countries, to maintain fraternal relations, to strengthen co-operation among their peoples in the economic, social and cultural fields in order to promote economic progress and social wellbeing in the region, and to put an end to the exploitation of man by man and of one nation by another;

Third, that the three nations shall combine their efforts in the common struggle against colonialism and imperialism in all their forms and manifestations and for the eradication of the vestiges thereof in the region in particular and the world in general;

Fourth, that the three nations, as new emerging forces in the region, shall co-operate in building a new and better world based on national freedom, social justice and lasting peace; and

Fifth, that in the context of the joint endeavors of the three nations to achieve the foregoing objectives, they have agreed to take initial steps towards the establishment of Mapilindo by holding frequent and regular consultations at all levels to be known as Mushawarah Mapilindo.

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Manila, August 5, 1963.

(signed) Soekarno
President of the Republic of Indonesia

(signed) Diosdado Macapagal
President of the Philippines

(signed) Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj
Prime Minister of the Federation of Malaya.

JOINT STATEMENT

The President of the Republic of Indonesia, the President of the Philippines, and the Prime Minister of the Federation of Malaya met at a Summit Conference in Manila from July 30 to August 5, 1963.

Moved by a sincere desire to solve their common problems in an atmosphere of fraternal understanding, they considered, approved and accepted the report and recommendatiins of the Foreign Ministers of the three countries adopted in Manila on June 11 1963 (hereafter to be known as the Manila Accord).

In order to provide guiding principles for the implementation of the Manila Accord the heads of government have issued a declaration known as the Manila Declaration, embodying the common aspirations and objectives of the peoples and governments of the three countries.

As a result of the consultations amongst the three heads of government in accordance with the principles enunciated in the Manila Declaration, they have resolved various current problems of common concern.

Pursuant to paragraphs 10 and 11 of the Manila Accord the United Nations Secretary-General or his representative should ascertain prior to the establishment of the Federation of Malaysia the wishes of the people of Sabah (North Borneo) and Sarawak within the context of General Assembly Resolution 1541 (XV), principle 9 of the Annex, by a fresh approach, which in the opinion of the Secretary-General is necessary to ensure complete compliance with the principle of self-determination within the requirements embodied in principle 9, taking into consideration:

(I) The recent elections in Sabah (North Borneo) and Sarawak but nevertheless further examining, verifying and satisfying himself as to whether:

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(a) Malaysia was a major issue, if not the main issue;

(b) Electoral registers were properly compiled;

(c) Elections were free and there was no coercion; and

(d) Votes were properly polled and properly counted; and

(II) The wishes of those who, being qualified to vote, would have exercised their right to self-determination in the recent elections had it not been for their detention for political activities, imprisonment for political offences or absence from Sabah (North Borneo) or Sarawak.

The Secretary-General will be requested to send working teams to carry out the task set out in paragraph 4.

The Federation of Malaya, having undertaken to consult the British Government and the Governments of Sabah (North Borneo) and Sarawak under paragraph 11 of the Manila Accord on behalf of the three heads of government, further undertake to request them to co-operate with the Secretary-General and to extend him the necessary facilities so as to enable him to carry out his task as set out in paragraph 4.

In the interest of the countries concerned, the three heads of government deem it desirable to send observers to witness the carrying out of the task to be undertaken by the working teams, and the Federation of Malaya will use its best endeavors to obtain the co-operation of the British Government and the Governments of Sabah (North Borneo) and Sarawak in furtherance of this purpose.

In accordance with paragraph 12 of the Manila Accord, the three heads of government decided to request the British Government to agree to seek a just and expeditious solution to the dispute between the British Government and the Philippines concerning Sabah (North Borneo) by means of negotiation, conciliation and arbitration, judicial settlement, or other peaceful means of the parties' own choice in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations. The three heads of government take cognizance of the position regarding the Philippine claim to Sabah (North Borneo) after the establishment of the Federation of Malaysia as provided under paragraph 12 of the Manila Accord, that is, that the inclusion of Sabah (North Borneo) in the Federation of Malaysia does not prejudice either the claim or any right thereunder.

Pursuant to paragraphs 6, 7, 8 and 9 of the Manila Accord and the fifth principle of the Manila Declaration, that is, that initial steps should be taken towards the establishment of Mapilindo by holding frequent and regular consultations at all

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levels to be known as Mashawarah Mapilindo, it is agreed that each country shall set up a National Secretariat for Mapilindo affairs and as a first step the respective National Secretariats will consult together with a view to co-ordinating and co-operating with each other in the study on the setting up of the necessary machinery for Mapilindo.

The three heads of government emphasised that the responsibility for the preservation of the National Independence of the three countries and of the peace and security in their region lies primarily in the hands of the governments and the peoples of the countries concerned, and that the three governments undertake to have close consultations (Mashawarah) among themselves on these matters.

The three heads of government further agreed that foreign bases -- temporary in nature -- should not be allowed to be used directly or indirectly to subvert the National Independence of any of the three countries. In accordance with the principle enunciated in the Bandung Declaration, the three countries will abstain from the use of arrangements of collective defence to serve the particular interests of any of the big powers.

President Sukarno and Prime Minister Abdul Rahman express their deep appreciation for the initiative taken by President Macapagal in calling the Summit Conference which, in addition to resolving their differences concerning the proposed Federation of Malaysia, resulted in paving the way for the establishment of Mapilindo. The three heads of government conclude this conference, which has greatly strengthened the fraternal ties which bind their three countries and extended the scope of their co-operation and understanding, with renewed confidence that their governments and peoples will together make a significant contribution to the attainment of just and enduring peace, stability and prosperity in the region.

MALAYAN GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATES WITH BRITISH GOVERNMENT ON PARA 6 OF JOINT STATEMENT

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs, Enche Muhamad Ghazali bin Shafie, said on August 6 that in pursuance of paragraph 6 of the Joint Statement of Heads of Government of Indonesia, the Philippines and the Federation of Malaya in Manila of August 5, 1963 * the Federation Government has sent a communication to the British Government to formally consult them regarding arrangements for the Secretary-General of the United Nations to ascertain the wishes of the peoples of Sabah and Sarawak in connection with the establishment of Malaysia.

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* Paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Manila Joint Statement read as follows: -

"6. The Federation of Malaya, having undertaken to consult the British Government and the Governments of Sabah (North Borneo) and Sarawak under paragraph 11 of the Manila Accord on behalf of the three Heads of Government, further undertake to request them to co-operate with the Secretary-General and to extend him the necessary facilities so as to enable him to carry out his task as set out in paragraph 4.

"7. In the interest of the countries concerned, the three Heads of Government deem it desirable to send observers to witness the carrying out of the task to be undertaken by the working teams, and the Federation of Malaya will use its best endeavors to obtain the co-operation of the British Government and the Governments of Sabah (North Borneo) and Sarawak in furtherance of this purpose."

VOICE OF AMERICA COMMENT

The following is the text of the Voice of America commentary by its senior news analyst, Ronald J. Dunlavey, on the recent Mapilindo Summit:

On the same day that the nuclear test-ban treaty was signed in Moscow by the three big nuclear powers, another agreement was signed in Manila by three other nations. On August 5, the Philippine Republic, Indonesia and Malaya agreed to let the United Nations settle the much-argued matter of self-determination in certain parts of the projected new state of Malaysia; and they also agreed to establish a loose confederation of the three powers, to be known as Mapilindo, after the first syllables in the name of each country.

The agreement thus has one part which deals with an immediate and concrete situation and one part which deals with a more long-range and general situation. With regard to the first part, it is unquestionably encouraging. Indonesia has raised quite stormily the question of whether the people of North Borneo and Sarawak really wanted to be part of Malaysia, and had questioned the validity of the elections held in those areas.

Under the terms of the Manila Pact, the United Nations will be called upon to resolve the issue by sending working teams who will study the elections and report back to U Thant. The general feeling is that the appeal to the U.N. is a positive development which should go a long way toward settling an issue which has proved a stumbling block.

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It is expected that U Thant will accept the assignment, but there is some confusion as to how long it will take the U.N. to complete its mission, and whether it can be completed by August 31, the date on which Malaysia is scheduled to come formally into existence. Nothing was said in the Manila Pact to indicate that the date would be changed, but Prime Minister Rahman has said that he would ask the Malayan Parliament for a few days' leeway, if necessary, in voting on the Malaysian Bill.

The formation of the Mapilindo confederation, though it is couched in general terms whose real value will depend on how they are implemented, is also an encouraging development. The declaration calls for frequent consultation at all levels with the aim of combining efforts for cultural, social and economic unity, and for opposing colonialism and imperialism in all their forms.

Such aims, properly carried out, could undoubtedly transform the once-colonial area into a powerful force for the good of all Southeast Asia. It is obvious, however, that much depends on the ability of the confederation members to defend themselves against communist China. This makes outside assistance necessary, at least for the present.

The joint statement emphasises that the responsibility for security lies with the governments concerned, but that foreign bases will be temporary in nature and will not be used for subversive purposes.

Considerable discussion will no doubt be generated. An additional phrase that "the three countries will abstain from the use of arrangements of collective defence to serve the particular interests of any of the big powers."

The Manila Agreement is like the agreement signed in Moscow in at least one respect: its full success or failure depends on what happens in the future. It depends on the willingness of the members to submerge their differences of opinion for the common good.

Dr. Toh Chin Chye, the Deputy Prime Minister of Singapore, speaking of Malaysia itself, remarked that: "A single rice stalk is weak and fragile, easily broken in a storm. If hundreds of such stalks are bound together, no storm can break them."

The same philosophy might be applied to the broad confederation which is projected in the Manila Agreement, and if it is made to work it can contribute significantly to the peace, stability and security of Southeast Asia.

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AMERICAN PRESS COMMENT

The New York Times commenting on the future of Mapilindo states: -

As a result of agreements reached at Manila, Mapilindo has formally come into existence as a grouping in which Malaya (scheduled soon to be part of Malaysia), the Philippines and Indonesia are to co-operate in matters of security, economic relations and culture. The new association in many ways is a promising venture, but its future is also full of uncertainties, because of the divergency of motivations on the part of the three participants.

The Philippines is taking part with a view to loosening its attachments to the United States and establishing a closer relationship with Indonesia. Indonesia's aim seems to be to become the focus of a new power center with far-ranging Asian and global importance. Both the Philippines and Indonesia are using the new association to assert roles in the internal affairs of Malaysia. Malayais a reluctant junior partner acquiescing in Mapilindo as a way to obtain Filipino and Indonesian acceptance of Malaysia.

A high degree of statesmanship will be required to submerge such divergencies into strong and meaningful co-operation. If they can be so submerged, Mapilindo could become the most significant Southeast Asian development in recent years. Favoring its success is the fact that ethnically, culturally and geographically it is a natural grouping of Malay peoples. It is also a logical response to the need for a Southeast Asian counterbalance to the looming might of Communist China.

Mapilindo's immediate future will depend on how the Manila accords on Malaysia work out. Through a fact-finding Commission, the United Nations Secretary-General is to determine whether the peoples of the Malaysia territories really want to become part of the new Federation. The determination is to be on the basis of voting already held. If the Commission makes a negative finding -- and Filipino and Indonesian members will be in a position to influence its decision if they wish -- the Malaysia project would face a new crisis that would disrupt Mapilindo co-operation.

The uncertain outlook for Malaysia is emphasised by the fact that the Indonesian army continues openly to train guerrillas in Indonesian Borneo, including leftist Chinese fugitives from British Borneo, for operations in Sarawak, Brunei and North Borneo. Plainly, Mapilindo has hurdles as well as great promise ahead.

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Following is the text of an editorial in the Washington Post: -

The three-nation agreement at Manila may have a profound effect on the future of the former colonial countries bordering the South China Sea. The immediate effect of the accord is to clear the way for the Federation of Malaysia, but President Sukarno of Indonesia, President Macapagal of the Philippines and Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman of Malaya have also set up a regional organisation designed to keep the area peaceful.

This is indeed an ambitious undertaking for three relative new governments, but is has constructive possibilities if present and future statesmen follow the dictates of reason, as they appear to have done at Manila.

The most hopeful aspect of Mapilindo, as the new three-nation organisation is called, is that it has begun its career with substantial concessions from the most powerful figure in the area. President Sukarno's open hostility to the Malaysian federation has given way to an arrangement under which United Nations Secretary-General U Thant will name a fact-finding commission to determine whether the people of North Borneo and Sarawak approved adherence to the Federation in their recent elections.

As the effect of the vote was to elect pro-federation officials by large majorities, this reference of the issue to the U.N. may be largely a face-saving gesture for Sukarno.

It is not yet clear whether the U.N. can act with sufficient dispatch to enable the federation to come into being on August 31 as scheduled, but with good faith on all sides the linking of Sarawak, and North Borneo with Malaya and Singapore seems to be assured. The result should be three viable governments in the area of former colonies, and if those governments can agree among themselves on the solution of their common problems, a new era of peace and prosperity may be anticipated.

The chief key is still in the hands of Sukarno, and much will depend upon whether he seeks to use Mapilindo to enhance his own power or to protect the peace and independence of the area.

* * *

Following is the text of an editorial entitled "A Sunny Summit in Asia" in the Christian Science Monitor: -

It is not very easy to arrange a Summit Conference, as both Nikita Khrushchev and Harold MacMillan can testify. And once it's arranged, it's not unusual for the conference to step off the

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Summit into nowhere at all, as former President Eisenhower and those who met at the Geneva Conference in 1955 can certify.

But we have just witnessed a Summit Conference at Manila which has had a happy ending and which promises to lay the foundation for a new and important alliance in Asia.

The meeting between the leaders of Malaya, Indonesia and the Philippines produced an amicable formula for resolving the dispute over the projected federation of Malaysia. Barring another reversal by Indonesia's volatile President Sukarno, he and President Macapagal of the Philippines will accept the creation of the new federation after Secretary-General U Thant ratifies the willingness of the British colonies of North Borneo and Sarawak to participate in it.

The creation of the federation itself, as Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman of Malaya pointed out, will represent another bulwark against the Communist tide. And then may come a still more impressive bulwark -- an alliance between Indonesia, the Philippines and the new federation of Malaysia to protect Southeast Asia from Communist aggression. The foundation for the alliance was laid during the conference in Manila.

We congratulate the three Asian leaders on their rapid ascent to the summit. (thanks, in part, to the goading of Chinese bayonets coming across the border of India) and on their success in getting somewhere after reaching it. The benefits will be shared by the entire free world.

PHILIPPINE PRESS COMMENT

Leading newspapers of Manila join in praising the outcome of the Manila Conference as a start by the three Malay leaders towards determining events in Asia instead of merely reacting to circumstances.

The papers agreed that the leaders of the Philippines, Malaya and Indonesia by proving they can reach understanding through reason and table conferences, could change the growing unrest within the area.

What was accomplished at the conference the Press said is a long step toward a common goal and closer relationship among the three nations bound together by race and a common past.

The Philippines Herald, hailing the signing of the three official documents -- the Manila Accord, the Manila Declaration and the Joint Statement -- as results beyond all expectations, said: -

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Collectively, these documents confirm in the most eloquent terms the meeting of minds of the three conferring Asian leaders -- President Macapagal, President Sukarno and Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman -- on all the vital aspects of the questions involved in their confrontation.

The one great indication projected by these agreements is that the three Heads of Government, meeting their common problems head on succeeded finally in threshing out their differences and leaving no loose ends hanging. The Malaysia issue could not have been disposed of in more positive and favorable fashion.

It is not exaggerating it a bit to say that the Manila Summit Conference has set a note of friendship and understanding among Asian nations. Its achievements could be a launching platform for further diplomatic efforts aimed at bringing closer co-operation among nations in this area.

The merit of its success proceeds not so much from the fact that the three nations were able to fashion out common approaches to their common problems, as from the fact that the conference resulted in friendship and agreement where there had been sharp clashes and seemingly irreconcilable differences.

The Manila Chronicle: The three Chiefs of State ... signed a communique which embodies all that there is to be embodied in a document which attests to the essential unity of the three major nations of Southeast Asia ...

The Summit has not accomplished all that is expected of it. But what it has accomplished is the longest step toward a common goal and the effective means of preparing the ground for further and closer relationship among three nations that are bound together by race and a common past.

The Manila Times: The Summit ... is a healthy beginning. (And the Malay founded peoples) have made the start towards determining events in Asia instead of merely reacting to circumstances. This is a major step, ... and it is possible that with an agreement among the three Malay founded peoples there will be created indeed a force to dissolve unrest.

* * *

ASIAN AND AUSTRALIAN PRESS COMMENTS

Asian and Australian newspapers continue editorially to applaud the spirit of co-operation at the Manila Conference between the Philippine, Indonesian and Malayan leaders which helped bring about the compromise solution to the problems inherent in the establishment of Malaysia.

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The signing of the three documents -- the Manila Agreement, the Manila Declaration and the Joint Statement -- shows the strong desire for economic stability and peace which would emerge from inside Asia itself, says the Press.

The Australian Age of Melbourne said both sides have given ground, and the elaborate diplomatic exercise has its value. The paper said:

Recent elections in both Sarawak and North Borneo have shown that a majority of voters in each colony is in favor of joining Malaysia and the investigating teams should have no difficulty in ascertaining that these elections were conducted with scrupulous fairness.

The Canberra Times: The communique issued after the conclusion of the meeting in Manila ... is notable for the initial steps towards the establishment of Mushawarah Mapilindo, an organ of consultation among the three countries.

In principle it is a good thing that these three nations should choose the way of consultation to settle difference and promote their common interests.

The Asahi (Tokyo): What is considered most important at this stage is the strong desire for economic stability and peace which should emerge from inside Asia itself. The birth of Malaysia and the idea of Mapilindo in this sense are most encouraging ... and something which the people of Asia can be really proud of. It showed to the world how well it could adapt itself to the ways of Asian history.

The Tokyo Shimbun: That the three countries of Malay origin have pledged to work together for development in economy and social welfare and eternal peace on the basis of fraternal relations, will go a long way toward stabilising Southeast Asia ... Through the co-operative setup of the three nations, peace and the welfare of the people in Southeast Asia will be pushed and a strong barrier against communist infiltration firmly established.

The Sankei (Tokyo): Organisation of the projected federation of Malaysia, designed to strengthen an anti-communist setup has been recognised in Manila. It is true that there is something common to the currency, education and administration systems as well as economic interests in Malaya, Singapore, North Borneo and Sarawak.

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